

The Africana Conference Paper Index

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Volume One

*Register of Conferences
through Author Index*

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PREFACE

INTRODUCTION

This index is based upon the collection of conference papers held by the Melville J. Herskovits Library of African Studies at Northwestern University. Since its beginning the Library has collected conference papers. For a number of years it has been apparent that this was an inaccessible resource because of the lack of any type of index to the individual papers. The present index, which provides access to this important research literature for the first time, was made possible by a grant from the United States Department of Education under its Strengthening Research Libraries Program.

There are 562 conferences including over 12,000 individual papers in this index. More than half of the papers are in English but a large portion are in French and a smaller number are in Portuguese, Spanish, Afrikaans, German, and Italian.

While most of the conferences included in this index date from the 1960s and 1970s, some significant older conferences such as the series of *International West African Conferences* held from 1945 to 1956 are included. A few conferences held in 1980 are also represented. There is some apparent duplication where conference papers have been indexed both in their original mimeographed form and their final published version. For example, the proceedings of the *University of East Africa Social Science Conference* (5th) included 94 papers. In 1972 a volume including edited versions of 10 of these papers was published. Both of these versions are included in our index. Similarly the papers from the *Second International Congress of Africanists* are indexed in their original form (140 papers) and again in the edited version published by *Presence Africaine* (34 papers only). It is hoped that this index will make these papers more accessible to scholars throughout the world.

The second entry is a keyword-in-context index. Because the index is multilingual, that is, reflecting the diversity of languages represented in the papers, the list of checked monolingual words is very long (1,535) and has not been included. Blocked words include, in addition to articles, conjunctions, and prepositions, words such as *conference*, *example*, and *study* in at least three languages and some words such as *Africa* in several different forms. These occur so frequently that they are not significant for indexing purposes. Titles have been categorized with geographical terms or subject descriptions when the title alone had no subject content. The standard keyword-in-context form has been used and is, by now, probably familiar to most scholars. The reference number is at the end of the line. An example of the format is:

BACKGROUND TO THE DROUGHT RAINFALL OVER WEST AFRICA IN 1972 - 274.94

The word *to* is the entry under *drought* for the paper *Background to the drought rainfall over West Africa in 1972*. This paper would also be indexed under "rainfall" and "West." *Background*, *to*, *the*, *over*, *Africa*, *in*, and *1972* would be blocked words. The form under "West" would be:

TO THE DROUGHT RAINFALL OVER WEST AFRICA IN 1972 - BACKGROUND

274.94

All papers are held by Northwestern University Library and are available for either loan or photocopy through the interlibrary loan department.

Maude Cason
African Documents Librarian

INTRODUCTION

REGISTER OF CONFERENCES

The index is arranged in three sections. The first section is a register of conferences with the indexed papers listed under the conferences. The conferences are listed alphabetically by main entry as in the Northwestern University library catalog. As a result some are listed by title of the conference and some by the sponsoring body. The editors judged that the advantages of using the library catalog as the basis for our work outweighed the disadvantages of occasional inconsistencies. The papers given at each conference are listed in the register alphabetically by author. Author affiliations are given only when they appeared on the paper and no attempt was made to standardize the references to institutions or to search for affiliations. In the rare instances where no author is known papers are listed by title. The conferences are numbered sequentially and each paper given at the conference is given a unique reference number. Thus the reference in either of the indexes to the register will be in the form of a number such as 123.38. This would be the thirty-eighth paper listed under the one-hundred-twenty-third conference.

There are two indexes to the register. The first is an author index. All authors of a paper are included in the index and a portion of the title is shown, followed by the date of the conference and the reference number. Thus references appear in the following form:

FOSTER PHILIP J + EDUCATION FOR SELF RELIANCE A CRITICAL EVALUA<1969 41.4

This indicates that Foster's paper concerning education is the fourth paper in the forty-first conference listed in the register.

The second index is a keyword in context index. Because the index is multilingual, that is, reflecting the diversity of languages represented in the papers, the list of blocked (nonindexing) words is very long (1,926) and has not been included. Blocked words include, in addition to articles, conjunctions, and prepositions, words such as *conference*, *example*, and *study* in at least three languages and some words such as *Africa* in several different forms. These occur so frequently that they are not significant for indexing purposes. Titles have been augmented with geographical terms or subject descriptors when the title alone had no subject content. The standard keyword-in-context form has been used and is, by now, probably familiar to most scholars. The reference number is at the end of the line. An example of this format is:

BACKGROUND TO THE DROUGHT RAINFALL OVER WEST AFRICA IN 1972 274.94

This would be the entry under drought for the paper *Background to the drought rainfall over West Africa in 1972*. This paper would also be indexed under "rainfall" and "West." *Background, to, the, over, Africa, in, and 1972* would be blocked words. The form under "West" would be:

TO THE DROUGHT RAINFALL OVER WEST AFRICA IN 1972 = BACKGROUND

274.94

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Madel Cason
African Documents Librarian

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Keyword Index

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KEYWORD INDEX

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